

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

IN RE APPLICATION OF: Masahiro YAMAGATA

SERIAL NO: New Application

GAU:

FILED: Herewith

EXAMINER:

FOR: WASTE HIGH-PRESSURE FLUID PROCESSING METHOD

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.97**

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

SIR:

Applicant(s) wish to disclose the following information.

**REFERENCES**

- ☒ The applicant(s) wish to make of record the references listed on the attached form PTO-1449. Copies of the listed references are attached, where required, as are either statements of relevancy or any readily available English translations of pertinent portions of any non-English language references.
- ☐ A check is attached in the amount required under 37 CFR §1.17(p).

**RELATED CASES**

- ☐ Attached is a list of applicant's pending application(s) or issued patent(s) which may be related to the present application. A copy of the patent(s), together with a copy of the claims and drawings of the pending application(s) is attached along with PTO 1449.
- ☐ A check is attached in the amount required under 37 CFR §1.17(p).

**CERTIFICATION**


- ☐ Each item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.
- ☐ No item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to the knowledge of the undersigned, having made reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.

**DEPOSIT ACCOUNT**

- ☒ Please charge any additional fees for the papers being filed herewith and for which no check is enclosed herewith, or credit any overpayment to deposit account number 15-0030. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,  
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Registration No. 21,124



22850

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**STATEMENT OF RELEVANCY**

**Reference AO (3010099) of Form PTO-1449:**

See Figs. 1, 2.

A supercritical fluid extractor is described in this prior art. Liquid carbon dioxide is used as a supercritical fluid, and water is used as a dissolution auxiliary. The supercritical fluid extractor consisting of a separation means has separators for separating and recovering the extraction components extracted into solvent. The separation means is provided with plural separators, that is, a 1<sup>st</sup> separator for separating the extraction components, a 2<sup>nd</sup> separator for removing the extraction components not separated and recovered by the 1<sup>st</sup> separator and water, a 3<sup>rd</sup> separator for removing the residue not separated and recovered by the separators and a 4<sup>th</sup> separator for removing the trace moisture.

**Reference AP (2000-223467) of Form PTO-1449:**

See Fig. 1.

A method of drying the substrate using carbon dioxide converted into supercritical fluid is described in this prior art. The substrate is held in a reaction chamber into which a specified quantity of liquefied carbon dioxide is fed from a cylinder by means of a pump unit. Pressure of carbon dioxide in the reaction chamber is controlled automatically. Carbon dioxide in the reaction chamber is converted into supercritical fluid and discharged therefrom thus reducing the pressure and drying the substrate.

Form PTO 1449 (Modified)		U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE		ATTY DOCKET NO. 239785US3		SERIAL NO. New Application	
LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT				APPLICANT Masahiro YAMAGATA			
				FILING DATE Herewith		GROUP	
<b>U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>							
EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB CLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	AA	2002/0132192 A1	09/19/02	Hideo NAMATSU			
	AB	6,358,673 B1	03/19/02	Hideo NAMATSU			
	AC						
	AD						
	AE						
	AF						
	AG						
	AH						
	AI						
	AJ						
	AK						
	AL						
	AM						
	AN						
<b>FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>							
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	TRANSLATION YES                  NO		
	AO	3010099	02/14/00	Japan			X
	AP	2000-223467	08/11/00	Japan			X
	AO	EP 0 992 852 A2	04/12/00	Europe			
	AR	WO 01/78911 A1	10/25/01	WIPO			
	AS						
	AT						
	AU						
	AV						
<b>OTHER REFERENCES (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)</b>							
	AW						
	AX						
	AY						
	AZ					<input type="checkbox"/> Additional References sheet(s) attached	
Examiner					Date Considered		
*Examiner: Initial if reference is considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.							